Départ to Serve  September 17, 2017

CHORAL EVENSONG This afternoon, Sunday, September 17, at 4 p.m., the First Church Choir with organist Tyler Robertson will present music of Bryan Kelly, James Turle, William H. Harris and Kevin Jones in this first of monthly evensongs.

NEXT SUNDAY - FORMATIVE DISCUSSIONS FOR ADULTS- SUNDAY AT 10 A.M. "The Vocabulary of Gender Identity & Sexual Orientation for the Faith Community" Join us next Sunday for a great presentation and discussion on how we continue to learn and welcome the Trans* Community at First Church. We will also begin discussions on Gender Identity and the importance of the words we use to welcome all to our faith community. Many people have questions, so we are providing this opportunity to grow in our faith and understanding in a loving and embracing faith community. The two-week sessions will be led by Stonewall Columbus and held in Room C of the Education Wing. Many resources will be available to take home.

RESOURCES FOR PARENTS There are wonderful books in the Alma Keeler Library concerning Social Justice and Race Consciousness. Also, many parent resources will continue to be posted on the First Church Facebook page.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE FROM THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER on “Ten Ways to Fight Hate” is available at the entrance to the worship space.

PEW MODIFICATIONS The project to modify pews in the Sanctuary for ADA accommodation is nearly complete! Based on conversations with members of the congregation and forums hosted by the Deacons and House and Grounds, a plan to modify pew areas to provide better accommodation for those in wheelchairs, scooters and walkers was put together and approved by Council. Last Monday, a volunteer crew moved several pews. Thank you to all who helped. Muller Pipe Organ completed the modification of other pews and rails. Mark Dahmke saw to securing pew rails and the floor, installing vent covers, and other details. Remaining work will include adjusting the spacing between several pews in the east Transept and modifying pew cushions.

ORGAN RECITAL Minister of Music Kevin Jones presents his annual organ recital on Friday, September 22, at 7:30 p.m. playing music of Jehan Alain, J.S. Bach, Dietrich Buxtehude, César Franck and Johann Pachelbel on both Beckerath and Kimball organs.

FIRST CHURCH WALKING TOUR On Saturday, September 23, Rev. Tim will lead a walk through our history in downtown Columbus, leaving the church at 10:30 a.m., having lunch on the way and returning to 44 East Broad St. by 2:30 p.m. Email Rev. Tim at tahrens@first-church.org if you plan to attend.

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE; THE EVIDENCE, CHALLENGES AND OUR OPTIONS On Sunday, October 1 at 1 p.m., First Congregational Church welcomes Dr. Ellen Mosley-Thompson, Director of the Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center and Distinguished University Professor in the Department of Geography at The Ohio State University for a critical discussion on climate change when she presents Global Climate Change: The Evidence, Challenges and Our Options. Dr. Mosley-Thompson is a paleoclimatologist who uses the chemical and physical properties of ice cores collected from ice sheets and mountain ice fields to reconstruct the Earth’s climate history. Come hear about these core indicators of climate change and how we as citizens and people of faith can respond and advocate on this critical issue. Join us for Fellowship Hour immediately following 11 a.m. worship for a buffet of delicious snacks in Parish Hall.

OF NOTE...We are updating and renewing our materials for both services. For the 9 a.m. service, interim friendship information pads with pens are at tables and on the chairs at the end of each row to be passed and signed. For the 11 a.m. service, interim friendship information pads with pens are located on the center aisle end of each pew to be passed and signed. We encourage you to please sign and pass the pads to your pew mates so you can greet one another by name. Additionally, please include any updated information or requests for visits on the pads so we can update our records or arrange for a visit.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEMBERS Don Erickson; Ray Pendell; and families and friends who mourn the loss of loved ones, including Susan Sitler, on the death of her mother, Ruth L. Sitler.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY Lois Ann Shearer, aunt of Valerie Conlin-Losinski; Dick Kevan, husband of Jan Kevan; Patricia Lightbody, mother of Mary Lightbody; Jana Padilla, friend of Jenny Provenzano; Don and Jane Mead, parents of Cindy Deliman; Marjorie Kufel, mother of Sharon Leidheiser; Rev. Roger Miller; and families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones.

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD We pray for the people in the Northwestern United States who have endured 200 wildfires. We pray for the victims of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, for those displaced by storms and devastating rain. We pray for the victims of the earthquake in Mexico City. We pray for the people of Venezuela.

IN GOD’S HANDS: THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE This week we pray with and for the people and churches of Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

MISSIONARIES This week we pray for Victor and Sara Makari, serving in Israel/Palestine.

NEED PRAYER? If you have any prayer requests or joys to share, please contact Amy Wagner, Office Manager at awagner@first-church.org or 614-228-1741, ext. 10 or one of the ministers: ecorzine@first-church.org or 614-228-1741, ext. 21, or tahrens@first-church.org or 614-228-1741, ext. 13.


MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK 9/19 – Kathryn and Shea Watts; 9/21 – Susan and Bill Rhoads
ABOUT YOUR OFFERING TODAY  All our offerings support the Ministry of First Church through its programs, outreach, and related groups as, together, we witness to God’s love. Thank you for your gifts.

- **Offertry envelopes** are provided in the pews for members or visitors.
- **Submitting a pledge?** Please use those envelopes, marking the "Pledge" box.
- **Church Support:** Checking this box directs your gift to general ministry support.
- **Mission:** Please specify today’s mission so your gift is distributed correctly.
- **Online Giving:** Go to our web site [www.first-church.org](http://www.first-church.org) click on Give or [http://www.first-church.org/give.aspx](http://www.first-church.org/give.aspx) and then click or copy the link into your browser to set up an account and pay with your credit card or through your checking or savings account.

**.easyTithe**

- **PayPal**
[https://www.paypal.com/signup/accountCreate](https://www.paypal.com/signup/accountCreate)

- **Other Gifts:** Please designate your intention: Memorials, flowers, fund raising projects, music, education, etc.

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**OFFERING TOTAL FOR LAST WEEK’S MISSION**

_**September 10** – $637.29 – CelebrateOne_

**NEXT WEEK’S MISSION OFFERING**

Building Endowment Fund

**COPIES OF TODAY’S SERMON** can be found in the office or at the Broad Street entrance to the Sanctuary.

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**Parent/Children Worship Resources**

A Worship Activity Pak for Parents and Children, crayons and Children’s Bulletins are available at each entrance. Included in the pack is a wonderful coloring book, “Be The Church,” that teaches wonderful lessons about who we are as a faith community. Ask an usher/Greeter or Deacon for your very own copy!
Beginning October 2, we will have a new class – open to all people everywhere – called “Speaking of Faith”. Ms. Karen Patterson and I will co-facilitate this class. We will go for field trip visits to places of worship and will hold conversations on five faith traditions and one night with people who are exploring spirituality. These classes will run from 7 – 9 a.m.

Here is the preliminary line-up of weeks and faith traditions:

Monday, October 2 – Judaism
Tuesday, November 7 – Buddhism
Monday, December 4 – Spiritual But Not Religious
Monday, January 8 (Second Monday) – Hinduism
Monday, February 5 – Christianity
Monday, March 5 – Islam

The purpose of this class is not for a simple “101” on the faith, but teaching time combined with in-depth conversations with the people who practice the faith.

Sign me up!
Name: ____________________________________________________
Email address: ______________________________________________
Telephone Number: __________________________________________

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